

THE FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

TALLAHASSEE 32306

DEPARTMENT OF OCEANOGRAPHY  
AREA CODE 904..599-3385

7 September 1967

Dr. H. B. Stenzel  
Visiting Professor  
%Geology Department  
Louisiana State University  
Baton Rouge, La. 70803


Dear Dr. Stenzel:

Your letter of 25 August 1967 was awaiting me when I returned from my vacation this week. Needless to say I was very pleased to receive it. It pleases me also to have my conjecture that C. commercialis and other species with denticles would be a different genus, based on the one observation that the gametes were incompatible with the other species of Crassostrea that I have on hand. As I think I mentioned I am attempting to obtain other species with denticles to attempt crosses. I do have a promise of two species from Australia. Several letters to India to secure cuccullata have brought no results so far.

I am familiar with the publication by Awati and Rai. Sewell Hopkins, under whom I did my graduate work, has a copy and I referred to it in my dissertation work. I am not familiar with Ostrea margaritacea but would like to have some to try crossing experiments. I believe Koringa wrote about this species several years ago and I shall look up his paper. Do you have a contact in South Africa who could send me about 100 living specimens via air express collect? Do you have any other contacts from whom I could secure species of oysters? At the present time I am not interested in anything in the genus Ostrea, or rather any larviparous oyster.

Thank you very much for your letter and help and I shall keep in contact. If you want specimens of any of the species that I have or may obtain, please let me know and I shall be glad to send them.

Sincerely yours,

  
R. W. Menzel  
Associate Professor

RW/jrr